

Gas Sensors - Use of Antiseptic Wipes / Cleaning Products

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Issued By: Rob White, Product Marketing Manager

Dear Customer,

With the recent concerns about the spread of influenza A (H1N1) also known as swine flu, a number of our customers have implemented the use of antiseptic wipes and/or cleaning products within their factories to prevent the transfer of viruses and bacteria. These products typically contain an alcohol based solvent as well as an antibacterial/antiviral agent.

City Technology's electrochemical and catalytic bead sensors are designed to be highly sensitive to easily oxidized species (such as alcohols) and if they are kept in close proximity to antiseptic products, or indeed are handled by someone who has recently used such a product, they are likely to respond and generate an output. This could manifest itself as an exaggerated baseline signal or prolonged recovery time.

Furthermore, a large number of our sensors are provided in plastic housings, and whilst the materials used have been selected to be highly chemically inert, there is a small risk that exposure to high levels of alcohols for a long period may permanently damage them.

We would therefore advise all customers who are using such products in their factories to ensure that additional care is taken when handling sensors and instruments. If possible, we recommend that antiseptic products are removed from any areas where sensors are stored or used. If antiseptic products are being used to sterilize workers' hands, then sufficient time is allowed for the alcohol solvent to evaporate.

Should you have any further questions regarding the use of antiseptic products around gas sensors, please do not hesitate to contact a member of our Technical Sales team or;

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